



00862.001579.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
YOSHINOBU SHIRAIWA, ET AL.)
Application No.: 09/697,315)
Filed: October 27, 2000)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)
APPARATUS AND METHOD : June 4, 2004

Examiner: L. Ye
Group Art Unit: 2612

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

6/22/04
WJ

In response to the Official Action dated May 5, 2004, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter and consider the following election and remarks.

REMARKS

In the Official Action dated May 5, 2004, the Examiner entered a Restriction Requirement and an Election of Species Requirement. Specifically, the Examiner identified the following three groups of claims as being directed to patentably distinct inventions:

Group

Claims

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Claims 10 to 16, drawn to an image processing apparatus/method using a plurality of different image reproduction parameters, setting means, and converting means (Class 348, subclass 223.1).